

Political Spectrum

Radical

Liberal

Moderate

Conservative

Reactionary

- Wants rapid fundamental change of the government.
- Violence or revolution is OK if it will reach goals.
- There will only be change by revolution, not by gradualism.
- Eventually the government should disappear and society will run without it.
- Government owns/runs the businesses (if there is a government.)
- Religion is not favored and sometimes illegal.
- Government should actively support social reform to increase individual well-being.
- Wants to change peacefully within the system.
- Social equality for everyone through legislation and taxation.
- Everyone in society has their basic needs taken care of.
- Government should regulate people's lives in some areas where it would benefit all.
- Taxes and education for example.
- Government should stay out of people's lives on social issues but help out economically.
- Civil Liberties are highly valued.
- Tolerant of most people.
- Not extreme on any one issue.
- May support one issue on the liberal side and another on the conservative side.
- Includes the majority of people in the US, though will swing back and forth over time. May be more conservative for awhile, then more liberal, etc.
- Includes (often on the outside of moderate) both major US political parties.
- Wants to go back to the "Good ol' days".
- Hesitant to change. Wants to keep the status quo.
- Government should stay out of people's lives, at least on economic issues. They favor very low (or no) taxes and no social programs (Welfare for example.) Perhaps user fees instead of taxes.
- Pro-business and against regulations on businesses.
- In the US they favor a smaller federal government.
- Is willing to have government regulate people's lives on social issues, but not economic ones. For example; pro-life, anti-welfare, anti-tax.
- Return to earlier type of government.
- Willing to be violent. In fact often is enthusiastic about using violence. Gorifies violence (Nazi's).
- Often intolerant of other races, minorities, religions, etc...
- The State is the most important thing. Is above everything else.
- Religion is not favored and sometimes illegal.

Examples of some political parties:

- **Communists** - Differs between theoretical and actual communism.
- **Anarchists** - These people often have vastly different political ideas, many of which are actually quite peaceful. Not all Anarchists carry bombs!
- **Leftist Libertarians** - Not violent at all. Believe in total freedom.
- **Socialists** - fairly wide range of thought here. Ranges from almost Communists to the idea that society ought to simply take care of all its members. An example of the later type would be Scandinavian countries.
- **Green Party** - Fairly liberal, but their primary focus is on environmental issues.
- **Democrats** - on the left side of moderate ranging from Socialists on the left to slightly right of center.
- **Republicans** - on the right side of moderate ranging from slightly left of center through Nationalists and Libertarians on the right.
- **"Nationalists"** - Mostly in other countries. The closest the US gets might be the "militia" members or "survivalists". (Far right)
- **Libertarians** - Many Libertarians are elsewhere on the spectrum. Refer to the Libertarian Four Way Political Spectrum. Most want no taxes, so they are often put here.
- **Fascists**
- **Nazi's and Neo-Nazi's** - Also includes other dictatorial and/or totalitarian governments.
- Perhaps the "Nationalists" here too.